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Red Hills water for the Avadi Congress Session.

* 1938 *Q.*—SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government asked the Corporation of Madras or any other Local Authority or Municipality to lay any new pipe-lines from Red Hills to Avadi for the supply of water in connexion with the Avadi Session of the Indian National Congress;

(*b*) if so, whether the Government gave any special grant to the Corporation or such Local Authority for this purpose;

(*c*) if so, how much money has been spent by the Government in this connexion;

(*d*) whether the Indian National Congress paid any amount towards the cost of laying and maintaining such pipe-lines incurred by the Government; and

(*e*) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table of the House a copy of the agreement entered into between the Government and the Indian National Congress for the supply of water in Avadi?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) & (*c*) Does not arise.

" (*d*) The Congress authorities made their own arrangements for supply of water to Avadi. The Government loaned pipes and pump-sets to the Congress, on hire at the prescribed rates.

" (*e*) A copy [a] of the Government Order issued regarding the supply of water is placed on the table of the House."

Metalling of Ala-Chowghat road.

* 1939 *Q.*—SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the grant made for the metalling of Ala-Chowghat road lapsed as no contractor had come forward to undertake the work; and

(*b*) if so, what measures the Government propose to take to metal the road?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" The work for metalling the three sections of the Chettuvai-Ala road was sanctioned by the Government for execution as a famine relief work. The Collector ordered that the work from mile 3/8 to mile 9/0 and mile 9/0 to mile 14/0, that is, beyond south of Chettuvai be started first. The proposal was to get the boulders collected under contract and to do the breaking of them into metal and consolidation under low-scale wages under famine relief. The work of collecting boulders by the contractor for the reach mile 9/0 to mile 14/0 was nearing completion. The Collector of Malabar reported that it would

[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 562 infra.

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not be possible to get sufficient labourers for this work at low-scale of wages due to agricultural operations. The Government have, therefore, decided to execute the work as an ordinary work in due course under the Five-Year Plan."

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, there has been undue delay on the part of the Government in taking up this famine relief work which was proposed to be taken up as famine relief work and sanctioned when famine was raging in Nattika firka during 1953. Government did not execute it immediately. That is why now it has become impossible to execute it as famine relief work. Will the Government see that the work is taken up immediately, even during the First Five-Year Plan period?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Sir, the work was started in right earnest but owing to impediments on account of agricultural conditions, we could not get labourers. That is why we could not do it as a famine relief work."

Repairs to the Errammasamudram tank supply channel.

* 1940 *Q.*—SRI M. P. SUBRAMANYAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any estimate is pending with the Government for the repair of the supply channel to the Errammasamudram tank, Pethanaickenpalayam, Salem district; and

(*b*) when the repair works will be taken up?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) An estimate for constructing a head sluice at the head of the supply channel and raising the crest of the anicut has been sanctioned by the officers of the Public Works Department.

" (*b*) The work is in progress."

Midday meals to Harijan pupils in Marava schools.

* 1941 *Q.*—SRI R. S. ARUMUGAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representation was received by the Government from Sri R. S. Arumugam, M.L.A., in December 1954 requesting the Government to provide midday meals to the Harijan pupils in the Marava schools which are to be started in the district by the Government; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (*a*) No representation was received by the Government. The Collector of Tirunelveli reports that a representation was received by him.

" (*b*) The Collector has submitted through the Director of Harijan Welfare proposals for supply of midday meals to Harijan pupils in Marava Basic schools. The proposal is under consideration."